

The North Carolina Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services has received federal funding through The Projects to Assist in the Transition from Homelessness for over 10 years. The Award amount for FY 04-05 is \$846,000. This is an increase from last year's award of \$716,000.

The funding is used to support a Case Manager to provide assertive outreach, engagement and time-limited case management services to individuals who are literally homeless and have serious mental illness. These individuals can have co-occurring disorders. These individuals are not receiving any mental health services. The PATH Case Manager outreaches these individuals in the street, or shelters and engages them into receiving services such as housing, survival support, medical, mental health and substance abuse services, to name a few.

PATH Programs are located in the following Area Programs:

Blue Ridge Center for MH/DD/SAS,
CenterPoint Human Services,
Crossroads Behavioral Healthcare,
Cumberland County Mental Health,
Durham Center Providing Behavioral Health & Disability Services,
Mecklenburg County Health, Mental Health & Community Services Department,
Orange-Person-Chatham MH/DD/SA Authority,
Pathways MH/DD/SA
Pitt County MH/DD/SA Center,
Southeastern Center for MH/DD/SAS
Wake County Human Services

All of the Programs are serve adults except Pathways MH/DD/SA, which serves only children and Crossroads Behavioral Healthcare and Cumberland County Mental Health, which has an adult program and a child program. The Child PATH Programs targets older, runaway youths who have serious emotional disorders.

CenterPoint Human Services and Wake County Mental Health have received additional funding to support Peer Specialist positions which is a consumer of mental health services who has been previously homeless and in recovery to provide assertive outreach, engagement and community support service.

The additional increase in PATH funding will be used to increase two of the existing Peer Specialist positions to full time and to add 1 FTE Peer Specialist position to 4 more PATH Programs.

The Division is requesting feedback and recommendations as to the use of the PATH funding. Responses are to be sent to Debbie Webster, 919-715-2774 or e-mail, debbie.webster@ncmail.net by April 30, 2004.